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Congress of the United States
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TRANSPORTATION AND
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HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT
OVERSIGHT AND REFORM COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE
ENVIRONMENT

September 26, 2019

Lieutenant General Todd T. Semonite
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
441 G Street N.W.
Washington, DC 20314-1000

Dear Lieutenant General Semonite,

As the Representative for Ohio's 7th Congressional District, I am writing to support construction repairs and new protections for the Massillon, Ohio, levee system being carried out by the Huntington District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. To date, \$200,000 has been reallocated from Operation and Maintenance funds to complete surveys and designs, with environmental reviews currently underway. The critical needs included a 7,500 linear foot east slope protection and 4,000 west linear foot slope protection. The construction of these protections will cost \$22.5 million. This project is eligible for funding under H.R. 2157, the Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act of 2019.

Due to high water events in June 2018, February 2019, and June 2019, the stability of the levee is of great concern due to erosion from high water. The terraces of the east and west levees have retreated approximately four feet in the past 18 months and are encroaching upon levee embankment. Conditions continue to deteriorate with each high water event.

If protections are not put in place, the West Side of the bank risks damages of \$8.8 million, including damage to a water utility serving ninety-thousand people, and damages to the east bank could result in \$55.6 million in damages, including 349 structures and an EMS station.

Thank you for your consideration of this project. If you have any questions, please contact Ryan Dilworth in my Washington D.C office at 202-225-6265.

Sincerely,



Bob Gibbs
Member of Congress